IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Barry Bratcher, Stephen J. Garger; R. Barry Holtz; Michael

J. McCulloch

Serial No.: Unknown (Divisional of 09/970,150)

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: Flexible Processing Apparatus for Isolating and Purifying

Viruses, Soluble Proteins and Peptides

Group Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Ardin H. Marschel

Attorney's Docket No. N9911

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following amendments and comments are submitted prior to any office action on the above referenced application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title, insert the following paragraph:

-- "This application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/970,150 filed October 3, 2001, which is a continuation of US Patent Application No. 09/962,527, filed September 24, 2001, which is a continuation of US Patent Application No. 09/466,422, filed December 17, 1999, which is a continuation of US Patent Application No. 09/259,741, filed February 25, 1999 (now US Patent No. 6,033,895). which is a division of US Patent Application No. 09/037,751, filed on March 10, 1998 (now US Patent No. 6,037,456)."--